

169. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;  
halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;  
wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles; and

wherein bills whose denomination are determined are delivered to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and wherein bills whose denomination are not determined are directed to a second set of one or more of the output receptacles, a bill whose denomination is not determined being termed a no call bill, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

177. (Amended) The method of claim [175] 176 wherein the halting occurs with the no call bill being positioned at an identifiable location in an output receptacle of the second set.

178. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;

halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles; and

further including determining whether a bill is a stranger bill, wherein a bill failing to have its denomination determined is termed a no call bill, and further including delivering stranger bills to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and delivering no call bills to a second set of one or more output receptacles, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

179. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;

halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles; and

further including determining whether a bill is a stranger bill and wherein the non-piece count related criterion is a bill being a stranger bill.

180. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;  
halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;  
wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles; and  
further including determining whether a bill is suspect, a bill determined to be suspect being termed a suspect bill.

185. (Amended) The method of claim [181] 182 wherein the halting occurs after a suspect bill has been delivered to the suspect output receptacle.

189. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;  
halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;  
wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles;  
wherein the criterion is a bill being a stranger bill, and wherein the halting occurs with a stranger bill as the last bill in a second set of one or more of the output receptacles; and

wherein bills whose denomination are determined are delivered to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the first set being different from the output receptacles of the second set.

190. (Amended) [The method of claim 164] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;

halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles;

wherein the criterion is a bill being a suspect bill, and wherein the halting occurs with a suspect bill as the last bill in a second set of one or more of the output receptacles; and

wherein bills whose denomination are determined are delivered to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the first set being different from the output receptacles of the second set.

192. (Amended) [The method of claim 191] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

determining whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion;  
halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or  
failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the halting is performed such that the flagged bill is positioned as the last bill in  
one of the output receptacles;

wherein a bill failing to have its denomination determined being termed a no call bill, and  
further determining whether a bill is a suspect bill; and

wherein the halting occurs when a bill is determined to be a suspect bill.

194. (Amended) The method of claim [191] 193 wherein the second set of output receptacles consists of a single output receptacle.

200. (Amended) The method of claim [191] 192 further including delivering bills whose denomination have been determined to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and delivering no call bills to a second set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

221. (Amended) [The method of claim 220] A method of evaluating a stack of  
currency bills using a compact, high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of United States currency bills of a plurality of denominations in an input  
receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more  
output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a  
plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute utilizing a detector positioned  
along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill  
meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet at least one of the criteria;

wherein one of the certain criteria is the denomination of a bill, a bill failing to meet the criterion of having its denomination determined being termed a no call bill, and wherein no call bills are flagged;

further including determining whether a bill is a stranger bill, wherein one of the certain criteria is a bill being a stranger bill and wherein stranger bills are flagged;

further including determining whether a bill is a suspect bill, wherein one of the certain criteria is a bill being a suspect bill and wherein suspect bills are flagged; and

further directing stranger bills and no call bills to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and directing suspect bills to a second set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

234. (Amended) [The method of claim 231] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a compact, high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of United States currency bills of a plurality of denominations in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet at least one of the criteria;

wherein one of the certain criteria include the denomination of a bill and wherein the halting occurs when a bill fails to meet a criterion of having its denomination determined, a bill failing to meet the criterion of having its denomination determined being termed a no call bill;

wherein the halting occurs with a no call bill being located at a predetermined position; and  
further including delivering bills meeting the certain criteria of having their denomination determined to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and directing no call bills to a second set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

239. (Amended) [The method of claim 214] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a compact, high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of United States currency bills of a plurality of denominations in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet at least one of the criteria; and

further including determining whether bills are suspect bills and wherein the halting occurs when a bill meets a criterion of being determined to be a suspect bill.

250. (Amended) [The method of claim 249] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a compact, high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of United States currency bills of a plurality of denominations in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet at least one of the criteria;

wherein the certain criteria include the denomination of a bill and wherein the halting occurs when a bill fails to meet a criterion of having its denomination determined, a bill failing to meet a criterion of having its denomination determination being termed a no call bill, and further including determining whether bills are suspect; and

wherein the halting occurs when a bill meets a second criterion of being determined to be suspect.

255. (Amended) [The method of claim 249] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a compact, high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of United States currency bills of a plurality of denominations in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting when a bill meets or fails to meet at least one of the criteria;

wherein the certain criteria include the denomination of a bill and wherein the halting occurs when a bill fails to meet a criterion of having its denomination determined, a bill failing to



meet a criterion of having its denomination determination being termed a no call bill, and further including determining whether bills are suspect; and

further including delivering bills whose denomination have been determined to a first set of one or more of the output receptacles and directing bills whose denomination have not been determined to a second set of one or more of the output receptacles, the output receptacles of the second set being different from the output receptacles of the first set.

277. (Amended) [The method of claim 276] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, at least one of the output receptacles being adapted to receive more than one denomination of bills;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;  
wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting with a flagged bill that meets or fails to meet at least a given set of the criteria positioned in one of the output receptacles;  
wherein the certain criteria include the denomination of a bill, a bill failing to meet a criterion of having its denomination determined being termed a no call bill; and  
further including determining whether a bill is a stranger bill and wherein the certain criteria include a bill being a stranger bill.

284. (Amended) [The method of claim 273] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, at least one of the output receptacles being adapted to receive more than one denomination of bills;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting with a flagged bill that meets or fails to meet at least a given set of the criteria positioned in one of the output receptacles; and

wherein the output receptacles include a third output receptacle and further including delivering flagged bills to the second output receptacle.

285. (Amended) [The method of claim 273] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a high-speed United States currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the currency evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, at least one of the output receptacles being adapted to receive more than one denomination of bills;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills including United States bills of a plurality of denominations at a rate of at least 800 bills per minute, utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

flagging bills that meet or fail to meet any of certain non-piece count related criteria, a bill meeting or failing to meet any of the criteria being termed a flagged bill;

wherein the flagging comprises halting the transporting with a flagged bill that meets or fails to meet at least a given set of the criteria positioned in one of the output receptacles; and

further including determining whether a bill is a stranger bill and wherein the certain criteria include a bill being a stranger bill.

312. (Amended) [The method of claim 306] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
halting the transporting in a predetermined manner in response to a determination that a bill meets a stranger bill criterion and in response to a determination that a bill meets a no call bill criterion;  
wherein a bill which meets the stranger bill criterion is termed a stranger bill, and wherein a bill which meets the no call bill criterion is termed a no call bill; and  
wherein the halting occurs with the bill meeting the stranger bill or non call bill criterion being positioned in one of the output receptacles.

313. (Amended) The method of claim 312 [306] wherein the halting occurs with the bill meeting the stranger bill or no call bill criterion being positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles.

314. (Amended) [The method of claim 306] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:  
receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;  
transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;  
counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;  
halting the transporting in a predetermined manner in response to a determination that a bill meets a stranger bill criterion and in response to a determination that a bill meets a no call bill criterion;

wherein a bill which meets the stranger bill criterion is termed a stranger bill, and wherein a bill which meets the no call bill criterion is termed a no call bill; and

wherein the halting occurs with the bill meeting the stranger bill or no call bill criterion being located at a predetermined position.

317. (Amended) [The method of claim 306] A method of evaluating a stack of currency bills using a currency evaluation device comprising:

receiving a stack of bills in an input receptacle of the evaluation device;

transporting the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to one of two or more output receptacles of the currency evaluation device;

counting and determining the denomination of the bills utilizing a detector positioned along a transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles;

halting the transporting in a predetermined manner in response to a determination that a bill meets a stranger bill criterion and in response to a determination that a bill meets a no call bill criterion;

wherein a bill which meets the stranger bill criterion is termed a stranger bill, and wherein a bill which meets the no call bill criterion is termed a no call bill; and

further including determining whether bills are suspect and wherein one of a criterion is a bill being a suspect bill.

#### **REMARKS**

Claims 164-329 are pending in the application. Claims 164-168, 188, 191, 202-220, 225-233, 249, 258-267, 273-276, 286-300, 306-311, 315-316, and 320-321 have been cancelled without prejudice. The Applicants will be pursuing the subject matter of these claims in another application. Claims 169, 177-180, 185, 189-190, 192, 194, 200, 221, 234, 239, 250, 255, 277, 284-285, 312-314 and 317 have been amended. Claims 169, 178-180, 192, 221, 234, 239, 250, 255, 277, 284-285, 312, 314 and 317 have been amended to their independent form, including any